

#10/RESPONSE
of 8/16/00
B.N.



Attorney Docket No. 970668/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Masaki HIGURASHI et al
Serial No. : 08/964,180
Filed : November 4, 1997
For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
Art Unit : 2712
Examiner : L. Nguyen

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Attorney: Leonard Holtz

Dated: August 10, 2000

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

RESPONSE - 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2000, the term for response to which expires on August 18, 2000.

ELECTION:

Applicants hereby elect the species of Fig. 1 (Species without traverse, in response to the first portion of the election requirement.

Responsive to the second portion of the election requirement, since the species of Fig. 1 has been elected, applicants further elect the species of Fig. 2 together with Fig. 1.

The claims readable on the elected species of Fig. 2 together with Fig. 1 are claims 1-9, 11-19 and 21-27.

Claim 1 is generic.

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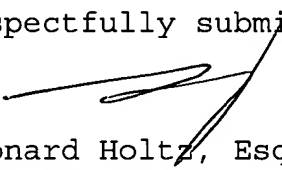
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If a generic claim is ultimately found to be allowable, it is then respectfully requested that the Examiner rejoin the claims directed to the non-elected species.

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing is fully responsive to the election requirement set forth in the outstanding Office Action. It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed on the basis on the basis of the election as set forth hereinabove.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz, Esq.
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: August 10, 2000

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